

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JAMES "JIM"  
VANDERFORD

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 29, 2004*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. James "Jim" Vanderford for his many years of service to Lake Mead National Recreation Area (NRA). Mr. Vanderford is both an amazing ambassador for the National Park Service and Lake Mead NRA and a dedicated public servant. I have worked with Jim throughout my career and am also proud to call him one of my good friends.

After serving our Nation in the U.S. Marines from 1960–1963, Mr. Vanderford began his civilian Federal career with the Bureau of Land Management in 1971. In May of 1974, he accepted a position at Lake Mead NRA and began his long career of service at one of Nevada's most important natural resources. He has served as the Chief of Maintenance and Engineering since August of 1994.

During his 30 years of service at Lake Mead NRA, Mr. Vanderford designed and supervised the construction and upgrade of many of the park's facilities, including picnic areas, launch ramps, courtesy docks, restrooms, and water and wastewater treatment facilities. He also supervised millions of dollars in Federal Highway Administration road construction projects.

The work Jim Vanderford did during his time at Lake Mead NRA has impacted each one of the more than 9 million people that visit Lake Mead each year. His work ethic and institutional knowledge will be greatly missed.

I wish Jim the very best in his retirement and look forward to seeing him and his wife Jeri Lynn as they continue to reside in Boulder City, Nevada. I am proud of all that Jim has done for Southern Nevada and commend him for all his years of service.

CONGRATULATING 2004 CENTRAL  
VALLEY COMMON THREADS  
AWARD WINNERS

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 29, 2004*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lillian Draxler, Debbie Jacobsen, Margaret Jensen, Mary Wickstrom and Bernice Woolf, the recipients of the 2004 Central Valley Common Threads Award. This award is presented to women in agriculture who have made a remarkable contribution to their community through volunteer work and philanthropy.

Lillian Draxler has been dedicated to the dairy industry her entire life. She helped establish the JCJ Dairy 30 years ago. For 38 years, Lillian has been engaged in the 4-H program both in Fresno and Kings counties

serving in every capacity and coordinating every major event on the 4-H calendar. She provides leadership and funding to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, helps the Kings County Dairywomen amass scholarship funds for needy agriculture students, and is involved with the Dairy Herd Improvement Association. Lillian also assists the Farm Bureau and its Education and Agriculture Together programs.

Debbie Jacobsen has been active in the grape and teaching industry for more than 20 years. She is one of several principles in the family-owned J&L Vineyards and is teaching at Washington Union High School. Debbie currently serves as president of the Fresno County Farm Bureau and is the first woman to hold the position. She is a leader in the Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom program, speaking in classrooms and inviting school tours to her farm. She serves as co-chairman of the Fresno Fair Ag Education Fabulous Food Machine. Debbie is also on the Board of Directors for the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom and received the group's prestigious Volunteer Educator Award in 1995.

Margaret Jensen has been involved in agriculture throughout her life. She helped plant and develop the pistachio industry in Madera County and was involved in the first commercial citrus planting in Madera County in 1958. Margaret is involved with Fresno State's Ag One Foundation and has been a member of the Fresno County Farm Bureau since 1935. She has contributed to numerous projects that have helped to benefit Fresno and the entire San Joaquin Valley. Some of these include the Break the Barriers building fund and helping to fully fund the chapel at Children's Hospital of Central California, a place that provides comfort and quiet for all faiths. Mary Wickstrom has been a tireless advocate for agricultural advancement during her life. She established her own dairy in Chicago and, along with 11 other dairy families, formed the Hilmar Cheese Company. For several years, Mary shared the buying duties for items to be sold there. She is devoted to the preservation of productive farmland through good land use planning, and she puts those values to work. Mary participates as a member of the Merced County Planning Commission and as a charter member of the Merced County California Women for Agriculture. Mary has also been involved in the Hilmar FFA Booster Club and served as a leader in the 4-H program.

Bernice Woolf has been involved in numerous agricultural activities during the course of her life. She served three terms as a board member of the California Agricultural Education Advisory Board and currently serves on the board of the family businesses, Woolf Farming and Woolf Enterprises. These entities have her involved in the production, processing, and marketing of numerous agricultural products. Bernice is also a member of the Central Valley Chapter California Women for Agriculture, American Agri-Women, and served as director of Children's Hospital of Central California, the Fresno Arts Museum, and the Fresno City/County Historical Society.

She also contributed to West Hills Community College Farm of the Future.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the 2004 Central Valley Common Threads Award winners. These women have shown outstanding involvement, not only in agriculture but also in strengthening their respective communities. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing these honorees a bright future and continued success.

IN MEMORY OF SGT. 1ST CLASS  
RICHARD STEVEN GOTTFRIED

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 29, 2004*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I inform the House of the death of Sgt. 1st Class Richard Steven Gottfried of Lake Ozark, Missouri. Sgt. Gottfried was killed when the Humvee he was riding in was hit by a bomb near Tikrit, Iraq.

In Sgt. Gottfried's family, military service was a tradition. His grandfather was a prisoner of war during World War II, his father was wounded in Vietnam, and his brother retired from the service. He was proud to serve his country, and he did so with courage and distinction.

Sgt. Gottfried was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. But these medals were by no means the extent of the honor bestowed upon him. The more than 400 people who attended his funeral, the tears of pain and the sounds of laughter as friends and family remembered the good times they shared with Steven all commemorated a life of kindness and service to others.

Mr. Speaker, when Sgt. Gottfried was killed he was nearing 20 years of service to his country in the U.S. Army and was preparing to retire. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his wife, Mary Jo; his son, Eric; and his daughter, Ashley.

CONGRATULATIONS TO STEWART  
E. SUTIN, PH.D.

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 29, 2004*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Stewart E. Sutin, Ph.D., upon his appointment as president of the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC). I am confident that Dr. Sutin will be an excellent addition to CCAC, as well as to the community of southwestern Pennsylvania.

Dr. Sutin was previously employed by Mellon Financial Corp. as the senior vice president and head of the international department.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.